

BEIJING REVIEW

- China's Trade Unions
- Viet Nam: Why the Export of "Refugees"



BEIJING REVIEW

北京周报

Vol. 22, No. 23

June 8, 1979

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Published every Friday by BEIJING REVIEW,
Beijing (37), China
Post Office Registration No. 2-922
Printed in the People's Republic of China

CHRONICLE

May 28

• Xinhua News Agency reported that in the last two months more than 4,000 Vietnamese citizens have been driven over into China's Yunnan Province by the Vietnamese authorities.

May 29

• Shen Ping, Director of the Department of Asian Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, met the Charge d'Affaires ad interim of the Japanese Embassy by appointment to make representations to the Japanese Government against the building of a temporary heliport on China's Diao Yu Islands. There have been disputes between China and Japan on the territorial ownership of Diao Yu and other islands. At the time of the normalization of diplomatic relations between China and Japan and the conclusion of the peace and friendship treaty, the two sides had agreed to settle the question in future. Shen Ping pointed out that as the Japanese side had acted contrary to the above-mentioned understanding between the two sides, the Chinese side could not but express regret at the Japanese action.

• Premier Hua Guofeng sent a message of condolences on the death of Mauritanian Prime Minister Bouceif.

May 31

• "In face of the expansion of hegemonism, China and Japan need to further develop their friendly relations and each to build up its own strength," said Vice-Premier Deng when he met with Zenko Suzuki, Liberal Democratic Member of the House of Representatives of Japan. Referring to China's readjustment of the national economy, Vice-Premier Deng said that China needed to import advanced foreign technology and assimilate foreign funds. This has not changed.

June 1

• Deng Yingchao, Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, returned to Beijing after a very successful visit to Korea. During her stay in Korea, Vice-Chairman Deng and President Kim Il Sung had cordial and friendly talks. Vice-Chairman Deng, accompanied by President Kim Il Sung, went to the city of Hamhung to take part in the unveiling of a statue of the late Premier Zhou Enlai and a monument in his memory.

June 2

• Chairman Hua Guofeng met with the Delegation of the Togolese People's Rally led by Ayite Gachin Mivedor, Member of the Political Bureau and Permanent Director of the Rally.



Overcoming Two Erroneous Trends of Thought

To carry through the guideline of the Third Plenary Session of the 11th Party Central Committee, it is imperative to overcome the interference of the ultra-Left and the Right trends of thought in the Party and in society. This was stressed at a recent plenary meeting of the Sichuan provincial Party committee by Zhao Ziyang, Alternate Member of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee and first secretary of the provincial Party committee of Sichuan, the most populous province in China.

The Third Plenary Session of the 11th Party Central Committee, held at the end of last year, adopted the decision to shift the focus of the Party's work to socialist modernization. The session made a series of important policy decisions, which included handling and resolving major problems left over from history, giving fuller play to democracy and further emancipating the mind and freeing people from the mental shackles imposed over the years by the ultra-Left line of Lin Biao and the "gang of four."

Zhao Ziyang drew attention to the fact that rapid changes have taken place since the third plenary session. In Sichuan, he noted, the people have further emancipated their minds, democratic life has become more lively, social order is stable and production has continued to develop.

There were, however, undesirable happenings a short time

ago. On the pretext of promoting democracy, a few young people went in for anarchism, and, under the signboard of emancipating the mind, they opposed the basic principles of Marxism-Leninism-Mao Zedong Thought. But these, Zhao said, were not the main current, and measures were taken to check them as soon as the Party Central Committee discerned their real motives.

How to develop the excellent situation that has emerged after the third plenary session? Zhao Ziyang pointed out that it is necessary at present to overcome interference from two erroneous trends of thought.

The first is that a small number of comrades in the Party have not yet emancipated their minds, and they do not have a correct understanding of the guideline of the third plenary session. A very few of them turn a blind eye to the excellent situation today, and they even impute the undesirable happenings a short time ago to this session, saying that the policies laid down at the session were "Right" or "deviationist." This trend of thought which is ultra-Left in appearance is most misleading. It aims at making the "four upholdings" — upholding the socialist road, upholding the dictatorship of the proletariat, upholding Party leadership and upholding Marxism-Leninism-Mao Zedong Thought — recently reaffirmed by the Party Central Committee go backwards and return to the path and emasculated theories of Lin Biao and the "gang of four."

The other trend is to doubt or oppose the "four upholdings,"

that is, to doubt the correctness of the policy decisions of the third plenary session or oppose them from the Right. For instance, some young people, who lack a correct understanding of Marxism and know practically nothing about the difference between the old and new societies and who have grown up in the years when Lin Biao and the "gang of four" were at the height of power, often blame the socialist system for the evils brought about by Lin Biao and the "gang of four" and begin to have doubts about the socialist road.

In the case of most of the people influenced by these two erroneous trends of thought, it was a matter of understanding, but there was no denying the fact that very few bad elements were bent on stirring up trouble.

In upholding the guideline of the third plenary session, Zhao said, it is necessary on the one hand to continue to criticize the ultra-Left line of Lin Biao and the "gang of four" and eliminate its pernicious influence, and on the other to wage a resolute struggle against the trend of thought which doubts and negates the four basic principles.

International Children's Day

The celebration of International Children's Day this year is of special significance, for at the end of this century, the children of today will be the main force in building China into a modern and powerful socialist country.

On June 1, nearly 10,000 Chinese and foreign children in

Beijing celebrated their own festival in the Great Hall of the People. Chairman Hua Guofeng, Soong Ching Ling who is Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress and Chairman of the Chinese People's National Committee in Defence of Children and other Party and state leaders joined the children in the celebrations and extended holiday greetings to them.

Speaking at the gathering, Vice-Chairman Soong said to the children that the future and hope of our motherland rests on them. She encouraged the children to love the collective, respect their teachers and elders, observe discipline, live modestly, study diligently, keep fit and cherish lofty revolutionary ideals.

Soong Ching Ling called for the further improvement of the children's material and cultural well-being, popularization of scientific knowledge among them, and the strengthening of friendship and unity between the children of China and other countries.

In mid-May, the Chinese People's National Committee in Defence of Children, National Women's Federation, Communist Youth League, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Public Health and six other units issued a joint circular calling on all quarters concerned to train the children into a new generation of the proletariat. It proposed that the celebration activities should co-ordinate with the International Year of the Child. Celebrations this year include:



Playing on the Swing by 7-year-old Hu Xiaozhou won a prize at the International Children's Drawing Contest held recently in Paris.

- A national children's film festival started on June 1. Over 20 feature films and 40 cartoons and puppet films were on show.

- Two thousand children had a campfire in Beijing's Children's Palace on May 31. On June 1, the children held celebrations in Beijing's many parks.

- On May 31, the Chinese Medical Association, the Chinese Red Cross Society and five other organizations held a joint meeting in Beijing publicizing children's health to mark the International Year of the Child.

- Major Chinese cities held children's concerts which will extend to August.

- A committee for children's literature competition has been set up. Winners will be given prizes or citations. In the first half of this year, nearly 1,000 kinds of books for children were brought out, over 100 of

which were in Tibetan, Mongolian, Uygur and other languages of the minority peoples.

Light Industry: Readjustment And Development

Readjustment in the proportion between the various departments of the national economy is being made in China today. "Taken as a whole, light industry will move ahead and greatly accelerate the pace of its growth in the course of readjustment." This was underscored by Du Ziduan, Vice-Minister of Light Industry, in an interview with correspondents of *Gongren Ribao* (Worker's Daily).

The Vice-Minister pointed out that the proportion between light industry and heavy industry must be readjusted. Since light industry can get quick returns, efforts should be made to hasten its expansion and enable the national economy as a whole to develop according to proportion and at a sustained, high speed.

Vice-Minister Du enumerated the reasons for concentrating efforts on developing light industry. He said that the growth of light industry will (1) improve the living standards of the people and arouse their enthusiasm for socialist construction; (2) promote farm production; (3) help accumulate funds and expand foreign trade, which in turn will speed up the development of heavy industry; and (4) expand employment and make full use of China's labour force.

The Vice-Minister listed the light industrial products that should be turned out in quantity without delay:



Workers and cadres in the Shanghai No. 3 Bicycle Factory discuss how to raise the quality of bicycles.

—goods aiding agriculture and goods from farm sideline produce and wild plants;

—paper, sugar, leather shoes, furniture, sewing machines, bicycles and electric fans, which are all in short supply;

—traditional exports like clothing, embroidery, canned food, fur goods, bamboo and palm and straw articles, and ceramics;

—cloisonne, tapestries and other products for tourists.

Vice-Minister Du also pointed out that existing enterprises should play their role and carry out technical innovations and renovate their equipment so as to tap their potential to the full. He said that given an adequate supply of fuel, power and raw materials, the output of light industrial goods will increase by a big margin even if no more new equipment, funds and manpower are allocated by the state.

The Vice-Minister stressed that to thoroughly end the im-

balance between light industry and heavy industry, it is necessary to build a number of large and modern enterprises and import urgently needed advanced technology and equipment.

More Jobs for School Graduates

To provide more jobs for school graduates, multifarious measures have been taken in many cities. The experience of Beijing and Xining, capital of northwest China's Qinghai Province, was frontpaged in *Renmin Ribao* recently.

In China's cities, the government is responsible for providing jobs for middle school graduates (generally about 18 years old) who are not willing or are unable to further their studies in colleges and universities. They are given jobs in government departments or state-owned and collectively owned enterprises. Some go to the countryside to settle in the

people's communes as peasants or to work on the state farms. Thus all citizens are guaranteed the right to employment, which testifies to the superiority of the socialist system.

The ultra-Left line pushed by Lin Biao and the "gang of four" did great damage to the national economy, and production was seriously affected. Though the task of assigning jobs to school graduates continued as before at that time, the number of middle school graduates on the waiting list increased every year. This situation cannot be changed overnight. On the other hand, there is the contradiction that the repairing services and the handicraft industry are undermanned.

In view of this situation, Beijing's Chongwen District began organizing last April more than 4,000 school graduates to take part in handicrafts production or to work in the service trades. These are collectively owned labour organizations which are responsible for their own profits or losses and follow the principle of "to each according to his work." The methods taken are as follows: 1) Organizing embroidery and mending groups under unified management, and the members can do their work at home; 2) setting up service networks which include teahouses, wine shops, carpenter's shops and transportation centres, all of which are very welcome to Beijing residents; 3) organizing mobile teams for repairing shoes, sharpening knives and scissors; 4) sending people to work in some enterprises on a contract basis. In addition, classes have been set up to train accountants, drivers, waiters and so on. This experience is

being popularized throughout Beijing. To date, over 30,000 middle school graduates have been given jobs.

In Xining's Xiqu District, about 1,000 school graduates waiting to be assigned permanent jobs have been organized to attend schools in the evening and do productive labour in the daytime, such as tree-planting and buying waste materials for recycling.

Service companies of a similar nature have been set up in Shanghai and other cities.

Initial results show that this is a good practice which not only helps the young people to earn their own living and reduces the burden of their parents, but also enables them to learn certain techniques and trades.

Major Scientific Achievements Awarded

Two major scientific achievements, the first since the State Council promulgated the Regulations on Awards for Inventions in December last year, were awarded recently. Certificates of invention, medals and monetary awards were given to the inventors.

One of the achievements is the synthetic large-size fluorophlogopite, which is an insulator and dielectric media indispensable to the electronic industry. In synthesizing this monocrystalline fluorophlogopite, four research workers in the Shanghai Institute of Silicate Research under the Chinese Academy of Sciences developed a complete set of technological processes. Their achievement

now leads the world in this respect.

The other is a new-type de-oxidizing catalyst developed by two research workers in the Shanxi Coal and Chemical Institute under the Chinese Academy of Sciences. It has proved to be of an advanced world level. Repeated experimentation and application in production have shown that this catalyst is highly effective and is easy and cheap to produce. This new invention has blazed a new trail both in the theoretical study of methods of intensifying the catalytic process and in the application of new-type catalysts.

The National Science Conference convened by the Party Central Committee in March 1978 drew up an outline plan for modernizing China's science and technology and decided to award those scientists and technicians who have made important contributions, in addition to stressing the need to speed up the popularization and utilization of new scientific achievements and techniques. Inspired by the conference, scientists and technicians at various research institutes, factories and mines, rural communes and colleges have been working hard so as to contribute to socialist modernization. Hundreds of outstanding results of scientific research have been submitted to the State Scientific and Technological Commission, which is in charge of the nation's work in examining and awarding new inventions, and it is from these that the two inventions have been selected and awarded after careful comparison.

Awards were also given in some provinces to scientists and

technicians who have made notable achievements. In north China's Shanxi Province, for example, an engineer was awarded for his success in making ultra-low-carbon steel (carbon content 3: 100,000) with the same magnetic index as that of similar products made in foreign countries. Among the 83 new inventions awarded in Shandong Province, four attained the advanced world level.

On May 31 *Renmin Ribao* published an article entitled "Pay Attention to Both Sowing and Harvesting." It called on the leadership of various enterprises to do a good job in using and popularizing the new scientific and technological achievements.

Training Personnel in Political Science and Law

China is speeding up the training of people in political science and law and at the same time promoting the study of the science of law. The aim is to consolidate the socialist legal system and ensure the early accomplishment of socialist modernization.

Tens of thousands of cadres have studied in rotation in political science and law schools at the central and provincial levels in the last couple of years. It is planned that in the next few years all such cadres working in the nation's 2,000-odd counties will receive similar training lasting from three to six months.

Institutes of political science and law, the department of law in the universities and research institutes of law in various parts of the country enrolled 1,100 undergraduates and postgradu-

ates last year. Another 1,100 undergraduates and about 100 postgraduates will be enrolled this autumn.

In China, students of political science and law study for four years and postgraduates three years, and the curriculum includes such basic courses as philosophy, political economy, theory of the state and the law. The students also study the Constitution of the People's Republic of China, criminal law, civil law, law of legal procedure, marriage law and international law.

Apart from setting up the law department in some universities which did not have it before, it has been decided to expand the old institutes of political science and law and build new ones as well. In addition, more secondary political science and law schools will be established and 5,000 middle school graduates will be enrolled this autumn for a two-year course.

During the Great Cultural Revolution, Lin Biao and the "gang of four" instigated people to "smash the public security organs, procuratorial organs and the people's courts" and as a result, virtually all the law departments in the universities, institutes of political science and law and relevant research institutes were disbanded. These were gradually restored in the last two years.

"Faxue Yanjiu" (Studies in Law). The first issue of this bimonthly for cadres in political science and law appeared in April this year. It carried articles and academic discussions on jurisprudence with a view to promoting research work in this field and improving the socialist legal system.

One of the articles is on election and another on the inheritability of law. There was also an article on the glorious tradition of the revolutionary legal system in safeguarding the people's rights and another one on the co-ordination and mutual restriction between public security organs, procuratorial organs and people's courts. In addition, the journal published an article expounding Lenin's theory on the setting up of the legal system.

More Precious Than Money

While weeding in the fields last April, a young peasant in north China's Shanxi Province unearthed many gold bars and other gold objects totalling 684.7 *liang* (1 *liang* here equals 1.00471 ounces). Gold cords and other objects were also excavated by other peasants in the vicinity. They all voluntarily presented these precious articles to the state. According to historians, this area used to be a battlefield where soldiers were encamped in ancient times.

"Returning the things lost to the owners" is a new practice among the Chinese people since liberation. They do so because they place the interests of the country and the collective above

everything else, and they show more consideration for others than for themselves. It is a fine quality which is more precious than money and is encouraged by the state, while lining one's own pockets at the expense of the public and other people is censured.

This practice has been restored and carried forward in the past few years, and the newspapers often carry reports in this connection. Following are some recent examples:

— Some 90 valuable objects which foreign visitors had left behind through carelessness in Beijing's Friendship Hotel were returned to the owners last year. They included 12 watches, 39 cameras, as well as typewriters, tape recorders and foreign currencies totalling 30,000 yuan.

— A girl student from Democratic Yemen studying in the Nanjing Institute of Pharmacology lost an earring when she went to Shanghai on a visit. She just couldn't remember when or where she had lost this present from her mother. To her pleasant surprise, a taxi-driver returned the earring to her on the day of her return to Nanjing.



Hei Yun and the gold bars he presented to the state.

—The widow of Sun Ding, an engineer in Shanghai, presented 1,344 pieces of precious relics to the Shanghai Museum in accordance with her husband's will. Among them are bronzes from the Western Zhou Dynasty to the Warring States Period (c. 1100—221 B.C.), copper coins of the Northern Song Dynasty (960—1127) and scriptures with dates on them belonging to the Sui Dynasty (581—618), all of which are rare articles.

People give precious collections to the state because they know these priceless relics will be better kept in this way and more people will have the opportunity to study and appreciate them. The donors and those who return the lost things to the owners are rewarded by the state. For instance, a peasant woman was rewarded for presenting to the state a very big diamond she found while digging in the fields in 1977.

Sino-American Negotiations On Textiles

The third round of Sino-American negotiations on limiting China's textile exports to the United States concluded on May 31 in Beijing. Despite efforts and concessions by the Chinese side, the American side persisted in its proposed limited quotas on variety and quantity. The negotiations thus ended without any agreement.

Considering the difficulties the U.S. Government is now facing in protecting its own textile industry by limiting textile imports, and in order to maintain the general trend of developing trade relations be-

tween the two countries, the Chinese side agreed of its own accord to raise the limited number of varieties of products from the original two to five. But the American side persisted in its proposed limited quotas on seven varieties (unbleached cotton cloth, cloth gloves, trousers, unbleached sheeting, shirts, artificial woollen wear, and synthetic fibre knitwear).

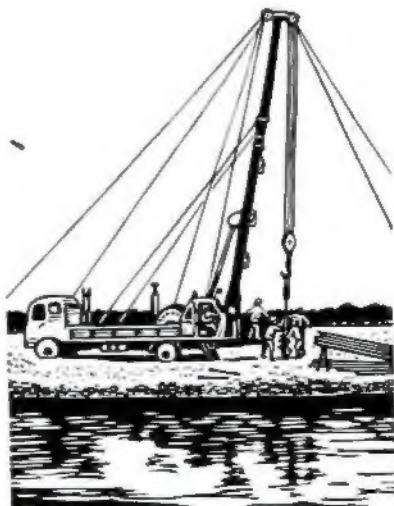
China has been exporting textiles to the United States for only a very short time. The variety is small and the quantity is very limited. Last year, for example, the value of textiles exported by China to the United States was only 106 million dollars, or 1.3 per cent of the total value of 7,300 million dollars worth of textiles imported by the United States during the same period, and China imported more than 200 million dollars worth of cotton and chemical fibres from the United States.

Textiles are one of China's main exports to the United States. The seven varieties of textiles the United States now wishes to impose restrictions on are items of textiles making up 90 per cent of China's total textile exports to the United States. In so doing, therefore, China's ability to export to the United States will undoubtedly be considerably weakened.

In order to develop trade, it should always be carried out on a reciprocal basis of equality and mutual benefit. During the negotiations, the Chinese side asked the American side to relax restrictions on the importation of Chinese textile products, and it was only reasonable for the United States to allocate to China a propor-

tionate quota on textile imports. While meeting with Ambassador Robert Strauss, the United States President's special representative for trade negotiations, Chinese Vice-Premier Deng Xiaoping pointed out that China had to consider the introduction of advanced technology from other countries within the limits of her ability to pay. He stressed that only by increasing her ability to meet payments could China introduce more new technology.

The volume of trade between China and the United States had doubled and redoubled in recent years. As China does not have much to export to the United States for the time being, there is a comparatively large imbalance in trade between the two countries. It would be beneficial to both sides to render support to China in the export of commodities to the United States. This would strengthen China's ability to meet payments for importing commodities from the United States and would be advantageous in promoting trade relations between the two countries.



CHINA'S TRADE UNIONS

—Kang Yonghe, Vice-President of the All-China Federation of Trade Unions, interviewed by "Beijing Review" Correspondent

Its Past Records

Question: How long has the All-China Federation of Trade Unions been in existence?

Answer: For more than half a century. Following the birth of the Chinese Communist Party in 1921, the Chinese Trade Union Secretariat was founded to promote the workers' movement throughout the country. In 1922, it convened the First All-China Labour Congress at which it was decided that, pending the establishment of the All-China Federation of Trade Unions, the Chinese Trade Union Secretariat was to function as the general organ of correspondence. The secretariat was, in fact, the predecessor of the All-China Federation of Trade Unions. The federation was formally founded at the Second All-China Labour Congress held in May 1925.

Q: What was the federation's impact on the development of the Chinese workers' movement in its early stage?

A.: Its founding greatly influenced and promoted the development of the workers' movement. Some examples of early strikes which the Chinese Trade Union Secretariat and the All-China Federation of Trade Unions helped to organize were the February 7 strike of the Beijing-Hankou Railway workers in 1923, followed by the May 30th Movement which first broke out among the Shanghai workers in May 1925 and the big strikes in Guangzhou and Xianggang (Hongkong) in June of the same year.

The May 30th Movement was touched off when the British police in a concession of Shanghai killed and wounded demonstrators protesting the death of Gu Zhenghong, a worker, who had been killed by Japanese capitalists. There was a three-month strike in Shanghai and a revolutionary storm soon swept through the whole country, culminating in a nationwide mass movement against imperialism.

The big strikes in Guangzhou and Xianggang were staged in solidarity with the Shanghai



Kang Yonghe.

workers. These strikes went on for as long as 16 months, severely hitting the imperialist forces of aggression in south China.

Between the Third All-China Labour Congress held in May 1926 in Guangzhou and the Fourth Congress convened in June 1927 in Hankou, Shanghai workers, led by Zhou Enlai and other comrades, won a great victory in their third armed uprising (see p. 14).

Q: What role did the Chinese trade unions play in the prolonged revolutionary wars in China?

A.: Beginning in 1927, the Chinese revolution embarked on the road of armed struggle blazed by Chairman Mao, the road of establishing rural revolutionary base areas, encircling the cities from the countryside and finally seizing the cities. In that year, Anyuan coal-miners and railway workers participated in the Autumn Harvest Uprising and Chairman Mao led the insurgents on a march to the Jinggang Mountains. This marked the beginning of this revolutionary road. The workers' movement in China, too, thus entered a new period, with two quite different struggles being waged in the revolutionary base areas and places under reactionary rule.

The trade unions in the revolutionary base areas were primarily engaged in building fac-

ories, rallying and educating workers to develop production, supporting the front, consolidating and developing the base areas and, at the same time, organizing workers' armed forces and mobilizing workers to join the army for active service and to take part in building political power.

Led by the Party, those in places under imperialist occupation and Kuomintang rule were mainly engaged in strengthening the revolutionary forces and safeguarding the personal interests of the workers through political and economic, legal and illegal, and overt and covert struggles. Since the reactionaries at that time were rather strong in the cities and their rule was terribly brutal, the trade unions there, in organizing slowdowns, strikes and other struggles, paid attention to rallying and organizing the workers to help, directly or indirectly, the armed struggles in the countryside when the moment came. After the anti-Japanese war began in 1937, trade unions in some provinces organized workers' armed forces and founded workers' guerrilla forces to resist the Japanese invading troops. On the eve of the liberation of the enemy-occupied cities in the latter part of the war, trade unions organized workers to protect the cities and factories against enemy destruction.

Q.: What influence did the Chinese Communist Party's "Left" opportunist line in the 20s and 30s have on the workers' movement?

A.: The three "Left" opportunist lines that appeared in the Party between 1927 and 1935 caused great harm to the workers' movement. In areas under Kuomintang control, their chief manifestations were: the adoption of a policy of putschism, unwarranted by the situation at that time, under the illusion that once armed uprisings were launched in the key cities, nationwide victory of the revolution would be in sight; and the refusal to make use of legal means and contradictions inside the enemy camp. Due to ruthless suppression by the reactionaries in the cities, the revolutionary forces suffered heavy losses.

In the revolutionary base areas, these lines adversely affected the revolutionary war because their adherents insisted on raising the workers' living and working conditions higher than was possible without regard to developing production and supporting the revolutionary war.

Q.: What have been the main accomplishments of the trade unions since the People's Republic was founded?

A.: After countrywide liberation, our trade unions, led by the Party, organized workers to take over enterprises owned by bureaucrat capitalists, speedily rehabilitate and develop the war-devastated national economy, institute democratic reforms in factories and mining enterprises (i.e., abolishing feudal gang-masterism and the labour contractor system and establishing democratic system of management), suppress the counter-revolutionaries, take part in the *san fan* and *wu fan* movements countering bourgeois attacks*, and participate in the socialist transformation of private industry and commerce owned by the national bourgeoisie.

At the same time, workers were organized to launch socialist labour emulation drives and to go all out to develop the socialist economy.

Our trade unions have also done a lot to raise the workers' cultural and technical levels, to organize workers to take part in the democratic management of enterprises and to better their livelihood by developing production.

Q.: But why haven't we heard anything about the activities of the All-China Federation of Trade Unions in the last few years?

A.: Lin Biao and the "gang of four," at the start of the Great Cultural Revolution, regarded the trade unions as a great barrier to their attempt to seize Party and state leadership because of the important role the trade unions had played historically. They insisted that the trade unions had pushed a revisionist line in the past and did everything possible to help some bad elements gain control of the workers' organizations and demolish the trade unions.

In December 1966, a group of people were instigated by Jiang Qing to forcibly take over the federation's office building. Then Wang Hongwen, Zhang Chunqiao and Yao Wenyuan collaborated with her to egg on others elsewhere in the country "to smash up the old trade unions."

* *San fan* was the movement against three evils (corruption, waste and bureaucracy) among Party and government functionaries; *wu fan* was the movement against another five evils (bribery of government workers, tax evasion, theft of state property, cheating on government contracts, and stealing the state's economic information for private speculation) among members of the bourgeoisie.

The All-China Federation of Trade Unions was forced to suspend its activities from 1967 to 1978. Many provincial, municipal and local trade unions were attacked and destroyed, and a large number of trade union cadres, activists, labour models and old workers were brutally assaulted and persecuted.

Lin Biao and the "gang of four" barred mental labourers (such as doctors, teachers and scientists) from the trade unions. They distorted the division of labour between mental and physical labourers inside the working class as a confrontation between classes, subjecting mental labourers to dictatorship. This gravely undermined the unity of the working class.

In October 1978, the Ninth National Congress of Chinese Trade Unions was convened and it elected a new leading body of the federation. Today, our trade unions are gradually resuming their activities.

Its Present State and Role

Q.: What kind of organization is a Chinese trade union? Who can join? Do they have to pay membership dues?

A.: Chinese trade unions are mass organizations of the working class formed on a voluntary basis under the leadership of the Communist Party. Workers and staff members in factories, shops, schools, hospitals and scientific research institutes, whether engaged in physical or mental labour, may join the trade unions irrespective of nationality, sex and religion. Anyone who wants to join a trade union must submit an application and is admitted after a trade union group discussion, subject to the approval of the union at the grass-roots level.

A trade union member pays monthly dues amounting to 0.5 per cent of his or her wage, mainly as a token of affiliation to the organization. All the dues are kept by the grass-roots unions to defray part of the expenses on such things as members' recreational activities.

Q.: What about the organizational structure of the Chinese trade unions? How is the leading body of a trade union formed?



Textile worker demonstrating to her colleagues in Jiangsu Province's Changzhou city.

A.: Chinese trade unions are organized according to trades and geographical locations. That is to say, each and every factory, shop, school or hospital has a union; in one particular branch of the national economy or in several branches of a similar nature, there is a regional or national industrial union. For instance, under the National Federation of Railway Trade Unions, there is a regional railway union in every railway bureau. Local federations of trade unions are also established in provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions. They are the local leading organs of trade union organizations and industrial unions. The All-China Federation of Trade Unions is the leading body of the trade union organizations throughout the country.

The trade union congresses or conferences of the members of the trade unions at various levels are the highest organs of authority of the trade unions at their respective levels. The executive bodies of the trade unions at all levels, namely, the trade union committees at all levels, are elected by trade union congresses or by conferences of the members of the trade unions.

Q.: Where do trade union funds come from? What are they used for?

A.: Our trade union funds are drawn from the following sources: (1) Monthly allocations from the management of the enterprises and undertakings amounting to 2 per cent of the total amount of the wages of all the workers and

staff members; (2) subsidies from enterprises and governments at various levels; (3) income from cultural and sports activities sponsored by the trade unions; and (4) membership dues.

Trade union funds are mainly used to cover the expenses for workers' and staff members' spare-time education courses, their recreational and sports activities, trade union offices, cadre training and subsidies paid to members in financial difficulties.

Q.: What changes have taken place in the role of the Chinese trade unions since liberation?

A.: Before state power was seized by the people, the Chinese working class was oppressed and exploited. The major role of the trade unions was to unite and guide the workers, under the leadership of the Party, to fight against imperialism, feudalism and bureaucrat-capitalism and to seize state power. Since liberation, when the working class became masters of their country and the leading class, the major tasks of the trade unions have been to constantly raise the political consciousness of the workers and staff members, organize socialist labour emulation drives, develop the socialist economy, consolidate the dictatorship of the proletariat and, on the basis of expanded production, gradually improve the livelihood of the workers.

After the People's Republic was founded, the role of the trade unions was summed up in three aspects:

— As a link between the Party and the masses. On the one hand, the trade unions frequently transmit the workers' opinions and needs to the Party so as to provide a basis for the Party to formulate or readjust its line, principles and policies; on the other hand, the trade unions, through their own activities, translate the Party's line, principles and policies into the workers' conscious actions.

— As a communist school. Through running spare-time schools, opening cultural palaces and recreational halls, launching socialist labour emulation drives and drawing workers into enterprise management, the trade unions carry out communist ideological education among the workers and raise their cultural and technical levels.

— As the pillar of state power. Trade unions organize workers to fulfil the state production plans, educate them to observe the Constitution, laws and state policies, recommend outstanding workers to leading posts at various levels of the Party and state organizations and

educate them to heighten their vigilance, be ready at all times to fight the domestic bad elements and be prepared to cope with possible invasion by social-imperialism and imperialism.

Q.: What are the tasks of trade unions now that China has entered a new period of socialist construction?

A.: Making China a modern, powerful socialist country by the end of the century is the urgent demand of the Chinese people and the new historical mission of the working class. For this reason, the trade unions will have to shoulder heavier tasks, mainly consisting of organizing socialist labour emulation drives, helping to promote mass technical innovations and a technical revolution and, above all, transforming the existing enterprises and tapping their potentials, increasing production, practising economy and raising labour productivity.

One of the difficulties in bringing about modernization is that the technical and cultural levels of Chinese workers are rather low. The trade unions are co-ordinating their efforts with the departments concerned to run spare-time schools and various kinds of professional training classes. We have worked out the following plan: by 1985, we will have helped raise the cultural level of ordinary workers to that of a senior middle school graduate and one-fourth of them to the level of a seven-grade worker (an eight-grade wage system exists in China, the highest being the eighth-grade)

Realizing the four modernizations is a profound revolution. This will inevitably entail many new problems and spark different reactions in workers. So it is necessary for us to strengthen ideological and political work, that is, to arm the workers with revolutionary ideology and revolutionary spirit, and mobilize them to work for the four modernizations with one heart and one mind. We should educate the workers to keep to the socialist road and uphold the dictatorship of the proletariat, the leadership of the Communist Party and Marxism-Leninism-Mao Zedong Thought. We should adhere to the principle of "to each according to his work" and more pay for more work, and at the same time educate the workers to foster a communist attitude of selfless labour.

Workers' Democratic Rights and Welfare

Q.: How do the trade unions ensure democratic rights for the workers? What is the relationship between the trade unions and enterprise management?

A.: In socialist China today, capitalists no longer control enterprises. The workers are masters of both the country and the enterprises. The workers and the enterprise leadership are equal in political status, and the goal of the trade unions and the enterprise management is identical; the two have a comradely and cooperative relationship.

But owing to the influence of the exploiting classes, certain leaders of the enterprises may still assume a bureaucratic air and encroach upon the democratic rights and material interests of the workers and staff members.

The system of congress of workers and staff members (general meeting of workers and staff members in small enterprises) introduced in China's enterprises today is fundamental to ensuring democratic management, overseeing the cadres and guaranteeing democratic rights for the workers and staff members. The trade union is the working organ of the congress of workers and staff members. Such major questions as the enterprise production plans, the use of funds, the management of enterprises, the appointment of personnel and welfare arrangements should be democratically discussed at the congress so as to integrate centralized leadership with democratic management and solve contradictions between the leaders and the masses in the enterprises.

When the above-mentioned congress is not in session, the trade union in the enterprise concerned is charged with its day-to-day work, examining the implementation of the resolutions of the congress and handling the workers' and staff members' recommendations and appeals.

Workshop directors, section chiefs and group leaders are elected by the workers in some of our enterprises. This is an effective measure for ensuring the workers' democratic rights and bringing their enthusiasm into full play which is therefore warmly received by the workers. All enterprises should do so in the future.

Q.: What would a trade union do in the event of a strike?

A.: It is stipulated in China's Constitution that workers have the freedom to strike. If a strike should occur, the trade unions would adopt the following stance:

1. If the workers put forward reasonable demands which can and should be settled, the trade unions would resolutely support them and fight against bureaucratism. The trade unions would bring them to the attention of

Party committees and the management so that the demands can be met as soon as possible.

2. If reasonable demands cannot be met for the time being due to the lack of certain conditions, the trade unions would give an explanation and educate the workers while passing the demands on to the Party committees and the departments concerned so that the problem can be settled step by step.

3. If a few bad elements incite the masses to wilfully make trouble, the trade unions would explain to the hoodwinked masses that they are wrong, expose the bad elements and help the management and judicial departments take disciplinary and legal measures against these elements so as to protect the interests of the factories and all the workers.

Q.: How do the trade unions care for the welfare of the workers?

A.: China's trade unions have persistently and gradually improved the workers' material and cultural life on the basis of increased production. We persuade workers not to raise demands for welfare benefits that are too high for the existing level of production while at the same time we oppose the bureaucratic tendency of certain leaders of enterprises who overlook workers' welfare.

China's trade unions join the state in formulating the policies, laws and decrees concerning employment, wages and welfare. The state entrusts the trade unions with the task of handling labour insurance provisions about childbirth, old age, illness, wounds, disabilities and running workers' sanatoriums. The trade unions in various places also set up workers' cultural palaces, recreational halls, libraries and other facilities.

Many problems still exist in China today concerning workers' lives such as inadequate housing, nurseries and kindergartens. Now the government is making bigger efforts and allocating more funds to improve the people's livelihood.

At the same time, the trade unions also organize workers to settle some problems by themselves. For instance, some trade unions organize the workers to build houses with funds provided by factories on the condition that production is not affected. Trade unions also organize workers' families to engage in agricultural and side-line production, encourage workers to do household work or repair houses on a mutual-aid basis and set up mutual-aid funds (that is, a worker puts in a small sum

of money every month and then when he is in need, he may borrow money exceeding what he has deposited without paying any interest) to tide over temporary difficulties.

Strengthen Unity With International Working Class

Q: How do China's trade unions carry out international activities?

A: China's trade unions have constantly expanded their international contacts since the founding of the People's Republic. But during the Cultural Revolution, the sabotage of Lin Biao and the "gang of four" brought such activities on the whole to a standstill.

After the Ninth National Congress of Chinese Trade Unions was held last October, the

trade unions' international activities were gradually resumed. We are now ready to establish contacts with all trade unions friendly to China. Our contacts with trade union organizations of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Romania, Yugoslavia, many third world countries, Japan, the United States and West European countries have promoted working class unity and friendship. The international working class has earnestly supported China in its endeavour for modernization. For this, we extend our sincere thanks

The Chinese working class is emulating the combat spirit of the international working class and is learning from its advanced production technology. We firmly support the international working class in its struggle to safeguard its legitimate rights and to win its liberation.

Reminiscences

Shanghai Workers' Third Armed Uprising

by Zhang Weizhen

After its founding in 1921, the Chinese Communist Party formed with the Kuomintang led by Dr. Sun Yat-sen a united front against imperialism and the feudal warlords. The Northern Expedition, which began in 1926, ended in failure due to the betrayal of the revolution by the Right-wingers of the Kuomintang represented by Chiang Kai-shek. After that the Chinese revolution embarked on the road opened up by Comrade Mao Zedong, namely, the road of establishing rural revolutionary base areas, encircling the cities from the countryside and finally seizing the cities.

The Shanghai workers' armed uprising described in this article took place during the Northern Expedition. — Ed

THE National Revolutionary Army jointly formed by the Communist Party and the Kuomintang left Guangdong in July 1926 and marched north on a punitive expedition against the feudal warlords then ruling the country

with the backing of the imperialist powers. The All-China Federation of Trade Unions issued a statement calling on the trade unions and workers everywhere to support the Northern Expedition.

When the northern expeditionary army neared Shanghai, the bulk of the warlords' armed forces were dispatched to reinforce the front. Their forces inside the city were comparatively weak. Three armed uprisings between October 1926 and March 1927 were staged by the workers of Shanghai.

Comrade Zhou Enlai's Leadership

After the first and second uprisings failed, a third uprising was launched under the leader-

The author is an adviser to the All-China Federation of Trade Unions. He was a member of the Hudong District Committee of the Chinese Communist Party and concurrently chairman of the Hudong Trade Unions Federation during the third armed uprising of the Shanghai workers.

ship of Zhou Enlai and other comrades. The worker-insurgents succeeded this time in taking over Shanghai and a citizens' government was established. That was a glorious page in the annals of the Chinese workers' movement.

The third uprising began with a general strike called by the Shanghai Federation of Trade Unions. March 21, 1927 was a bright and sunny day in Shanghai. At noon, workers and employees from all walks of life—factory and railway workers, shop attendants, postal and telecommunication workers, crew members of ships and dockers—went into action together. A huge army of strikers about 800,000 strong was quickly formed. With the sounding of sirens in the factories and on steamships anchored on the Huangpu River, life in the concessions controlled by imperialist countries came to a dead stop.

Workers and shop attendants from the concessions started swarming into the part of the city under Chinese jurisdiction. Strikers held rallies in streets and squares there and the air was filled with the singing of a revolutionary song: "Down with the imperialist powers and root out the warlords." Workers' pickets with red armbands manned the street corners. First-aid teams of men and women wearing Red Cross brassards stood ready. Most members of the reactionary authorities' police force stayed indoor; soldiers worked feverishly to strengthen some of their strongholds

30 Hours of Fierce Fighting

At one o'clock in the afternoon, the general strike developed into an armed uprising. Workers' pickets and workers at large in seven districts simultaneously launched an all-round offensive against the enemy. The pickets of the Hudong District who had only ten rifles and a crate of handgrenades let off firecrackers in kerosene drums to create the impression of machine guns firing as they stormed police headquarters. The enemy was terribly afraid. They did not know what arms the workers were using. Before long workers' pickets managed to force their way into the police headquarters and seized arms to arm themselves.

Some 100 pickets from Compagnie Française de Tramway in the Hunan District were the first to take to the streets and storm the local police headquarters. They had three



Zhang Weizhen (right) and other veteran trade unionists who were participants in the three armed uprisings of Shanghai workers.

pistols and 40 axes borrowed from the local fire brigade. The whole police detachment surrendered and the weapons captured were used to arm the workers. Their ranks soon exceeded 1,000.

The workers' pickets in various districts fought heroically. They besieged and took over police stations and barracks in the city. Many inhabitants joined in, taking on the cornered enemy bare-handed. There was fighting everywhere in the streets. The air was rent by gunfire and shouts and screams. Before long the enemy began giving up the fight. Some furtively slipped out of their uniforms to run away. Those in the barracks and in sentry boxes hurriedly hoisted white flags of surrender.

The bravery of the workers' pickets moved the people. Residents, including women, old people and even children, organized themselves into transportation and first-aid teams. Some acted as scouts, helped build defences and guard captives. This spontaneous support from the masses gave added strength to the uprising.

Between two and four in the afternoon, the insurgent workers had taken six of the seven city districts; only in the Zhabei District bitter fighting continued. The enemy had concentrated his forces here and had dug himself in. It had more than 20 strongholds manned by the reactionary military and the police. They

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had machine-guns, artillery and armoured vehicles.

At dusk, the enemy still retained three strongholds. One of them was the tall Dongfang Library where the reactionary troops put up stiff resistance. The worker-insurgents had the place surrounded but could not storm it. When it was suggested that the place be set on fire, Comrade Zhou Enlai, who did not want the books there destroyed, stopped it. A political offensive was launched instead. The workers outside shouted: "You'll be spared if you lay down your arms. Those who wish to go home will be given travelling expenses!" After a while, we saw a white flag emerge from a second-floor window. The guns inside the building fell silent.

Soon after daybreak on the 22nd, the enemy tried moving reinforcements to Zhabei by train. The railway workers and revolutionary students heard of this and ripped up a section of the tracks before the crack of dawn, and set up an ambush. When the train was derailed, the workers attacked. In fifteen minutes the 100-odd enemy troops together with their arms were captured. In the afternoon the field command of the Shanghai Workers' Third Armed Uprising mustered the workers' pickets of other districts, and together with the Zhabei workers' pickets, launched an all-out attack on the last enemy stronghold—the Northern Railway Station. It fell before darkness descended.

April 2, 1927: Shanghai people from all walks of life celebrating the founding of the citizens' government.



More than 2,000 enemy officers and men surrendered.

The Workers Win

The uprising ended in victory. In 30 hours of bitter fighting, the insurgents captured close to 4,000 rifles and pistols and over 100 machine-guns. The workers' pickets, about 4,000 of them, were now fully armed. In dark blue uniforms and eight-point army caps and all wearing a red scarf, they looked militant.

After the victory of the uprising, a congress of representatives of Shanghai citizens was called and a citizens' government established. The workers' political status soared immediately and their working and living conditions were improved. The slaves of the old society who never had enough to eat and wear for the first time began to live in dignity as human beings.

However, when the workers' pickets were locked in bitter battle with the reactionary troops rushed to Shanghai to suppress the uprising, Chiang Kai-shek, who represented the Right wing inside the Kuomintang, stood idle doing nothing. He waited to be in to seize the fruits of the fighting after both adversaries had exhausted themselves. Soon afterwards, Chiang betrayed the united front between the Kuomintang and the Chinese Communist Party and staged the counter-revolutionary coup on

April 12, making mass arrests and slaughtering the Communists in cold blood. The whole country was engulfed in a reign of white terror.

Because the reactionary rule at that time was fairly strong in strength, the fruit of the uprising too was forfeited. Many insurgents laid down their lives heroically. But the uprising also demonstrated the militant spirit and strength of the Chinese working class and its vanguard—the Communist Party. It was most inspiring to the people of the whole country and also inspired the workers' movements in the capitalist countries at that time.

How China's Grass-Roots Trade Unions Work

by Our Correspondent Xiang Rong

Harbin is a city in northeast China with a population of 2 million. After visiting the city's council of trade unions and some of its branch organizations in factories, our correspondent wrote the following reports.

The Congress of Workers And Staff

I ATTENDED a congress of workers and staff members held by the Harbin Bearings Plant, a big concern with 12,000 on its payroll

About 60 per cent of the 800 representatives attending the two-day session of the congress were workers, the rest being technicians and managers. One-fourth of them were women. These representatives accounting for 5 per cent of the total number of the workers and staff members were elected for a term of two years from among those who were good ideologically and in vocational work, had close ties with the masses and were honest and upright in their ways

Many topics were raised and animatedly discussed at the congress. One of them was how to make the best use of a fund earmarked for improving public welfare. This sum, amounting to 1.06 million yuan was drawn according to relevant stipulations after the plant had overfulfilled all its 1978 state production quotas. A deputy director of the plant first informed the congress of a budget made by the managing board (composed of plant directors and managers of the plant's various sections). The board allocated the fund for rewarding model workers, building a new farm so that workers and staff members could be supplied

with more non-staple food, equipping more workers' kitchens with gas stoves and setting up a workers' sanatorium.

Their budget suggestions were discussed in detail both at the congress and at group meetings of the representatives. Differing views were heard. For example, not a few representatives thought it unnecessary to set up a new farm but that efforts should be made to improve the farm the plant already had on the city's outskirts. The farm had failed to give satisfactory returns despite the heavy investment made in it. As to the setting up of the sanatorium, the consensus of opinions of the representatives was yes, but as things stood now, it was suggested that full preparations be made this year before large sums were allocated. The money, they said, had to be spent where it was most needed. For example, it was felt that more houses should be built to help ease the housing problem, that four vehicles should be added to bus workers to and from work, and that a new bathhouse should be built for a department which was far away from the factory's headquarters.

All these opinions were readily accepted by the leadership and as a result, a new plan for using the fund was mapped out.

Among the other topics discussed at the congress was what to do to modernize this plant as quickly as possible. The director made a report on the plant's development both in the next few years and from a long-term point of view, after which the representatives brought up 600 opinions solicited from fellow workers. A lively discussion ensued, centring on such matters as production, management, technical innovation, the workers' well-being and the leadership's style of work. A decision was adopted at the congress to set up an inspection group whose task was to sort out the

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workers' opinions and then pass them on to departments concerned. These departments were requested to give answers and work out concrete measures within a definite period of time.

The congress is held twice a year. When it is not in session, its day-to-day work is taken care of by a trade union working committee. In the Harbin Bearings Plant, the working committee was made up of 45 members—model workers, veteran workers, technicians, service workers and cadres from workshop trade union organizations. Nine of these 45 members work for the committee full time. The chairman of the plant's trade union, Guan Jingbao, is assisted by four vice-chairmen.

Socialist Labour Emulation Drive

Visiting factories in Harbin, I felt an invigorating atmosphere in which the workers vied with each other in a labour emulation drive. Colourful charts appearing on the blackboards and in wall newspapers were full of statistics indicating the targets set for and the results attained in the emulations between workshops, groups or between individuals, with a red flag cut out of paper pinned under each winner's name.

I learnt from Yu Yandong, department head in charge of production under the city's trade union, that the first socialist labour emulation drive was launched in Harbin shortly

after the city was liberated in 1947. Sometimes such a campaign was called a movement to chalk up new production records and at times it was known as a drive to become red-flag pacesetters. What was going on now was called a campaign for increasing production and practising economy.

The competition between turners' groups was illustrative of the present labour emulation campaign in Harbin, Yu told me. At an industrial conference held in Harbin early last year, a turners' group of the city's rolling stock factory "challenged" its counterparts in the city to a friendly emulation campaign. It started off immediately under the direction of the Harbin trade union headquarters. The 944 turners' groups were divided into 54 competition zones so that inspections and swapping of experiences could be conducted from time to time. The results were compared and appraised twice a year. The competition proved to be quite successful: By the end of last year about one-third of the turners' groups in Harbin had fulfilled production quotas two months ahead of schedule, and 63 of them were cited by the city authorities as advanced groups.

Labour emulation drives have helped bring the workers' enthusiasm for production into full play and stimulated them to constantly perfect their skills and to use their brawn and brain to solve knotty problems in production. They have also contributed much to the city's growth, as can be seen from the fact that Harbin is now no longer a consumer city with only a few oil-pressing workshops and mills but has grown into one with 1,400 factories and 520,000 industrial workers. Now it produces a large variety of important machines and large generating sets which are used throughout the country.

I learnt of many moving deeds performed by the workers in the present labour emulation campaign.

The No. 4 turners' group of the Jilian Machine-Building Plant had all along ranked first in the campaign. Workers in this group never slackened their efforts in technical innovation. Last year alone, they accomplished 30 technical innovations which helped raise labour efficiency onefold to fivefold, and they did 25 months' work in one year. The No. 4 group was in a keenly contested competition with the No. 5 group, but they never hesitated to inform each other of new experience gained in im-



Ma Lina gives a demonstration to her apprentice.

proving production. Once, for example, when Chu Delai, leader of the No. 4 group, devised a new lathe tool which not only stood wear and tear but also quickened cutting speed, he shared his invention with his colleagues of the No. 5 group without the least hesitation. The latter quickly picked up the required skill, turned out a good cutting tool and was also commended as an advanced unit. Then the two groups began to think about other innovations. And it was in this way — comparing with the advanced, learning from and catching up with them and bringing along the less advanced — that the workers pressed ahead with their labour emulation drive.

In a linen mill I interviewed Ma Lina, a girl of slight build, not very tall. "Don't take her for a weakling," a technician in charge of technological processes warned me. "She's a fine weaver, deft with her hands and nimble on her feet. No one brooks comparison with her!"

The mill's trade union chairman told me that last year Ma Lina chalked up a new record by producing 80,000 metres of cloth at a stretch without a single defect. This was no mean feat, since linen yarn is thicker and stiffer, with more irregularities than cotton yarn and breaks easily. She has been promoted from a grade 2 to a grade 5 worker.

A labour emulation campaign began in the weaving workshop to learn from Ma Lina. Model workers gave demonstrations of their operating skills for their fellow workers, and all the workers formed pairs to help each other. Though she was only 25 this year, Ma Lina is already a master-worker with two apprentices who are making rapid progress under her careful coaching. Of the ten workers in her group, eight have already produced 10,000 metres of defectless cloth at a stretch.

Electing Workshop Directors

IN an election held in the boiler workshop of the Dongan Machine-Building Factory, Zhang Rong, a 37-year-old technician, got the majority vote and was made deputy director



Zhang Rong (third from right) and others elected by the boiler workshop.

in charge of production. The new director took the floor amidst warm applause. "Thank you for trusting me," he said shyly. "I guarantee not to let you comrades down!"

I talked with this stocky young man. He told me that he had not expected to be elected. But like others, he said, he was also thinking how to do his bit for the modernization of his workshop. He felt duty-bound to make a good contribution since he had worked in the factory for 11 years after graduating from the boiler-making speciality of the Harbin Industrial University. When he heard his name nominated as a candidate at the workshops' preliminary group meetings, his heart pounded. He was afraid that if he was elected, the post would be too much for him.

Wang Shoufu, trade union chairman of the boiler workshop, told me all about this election. Held under the leadership of the plant's Party committee, the election was warmly acclaimed by the workers. They saw it as a guarantee of their democratic rights. Some people, however, had misgivings. For instance, some workers wondered if the election would really give full play to democracy or if it would turn out to be only a formality. A number of leading cadres feared they would lose face if they were not elected. There were also people who, for fear of offending the leadership, dared not air their criticisms of incompetent leaders. The workshop Party branch and trade union organization did a lot of ideological

work among the workers and staff to foster a correct attitude before the election took place.

A nine-member working group, with Wang Shoufu at its head, was formed at a meeting of trade union leaders of the workshop's 16 groups, and 15 candidates were nominated in accordance with the requirement that a workshop director should have a high level of socialist consciousness and be competent, fair and just in handling affairs. After two rounds of careful deliberations, six of them were considered qualified to stand for election, among whom all the three former directors were included.

On election day, the meeting place of the workshop was a scene of jubilee. A huge red streamer stretched across the room, slogans were put up here and there on the walls, and more than 200 workers and staff members were eagerly waiting for the coming voting. A ballot box and votes had been prepared beforehand. In order that those busy at work could also take part in voting, two mobile ballot boxes were prepared for their use.

The voting resulted in the re-election of the former director and one former deputy director. Zong Jingli, former deputy director, was not elected and was replaced by Zhang Rong.

What about Zong Jingli after his failure? I went to see him in the workshop's pumping room. He welcomed me with a broad smile. Now in his late forties, he had been a plumber

before he became a pump operator. He told me that because he did not have much education and was failing in health, to continue to lead the workshop to attain modernization was too much for him. He was glad to have someone take over his post so that he himself could return to his original job. His words coincided with what I had heard from others about why he was not elected. Zong Jingli was one of the factory's model workers. After he returned to the pumping room he painted all the equipment there anew.

Why was Zhang Rong elected? Workers and cadres of the workshop told me, admiringly: "He is resourceful and gets a lot of work done. He often works in the shop with us and goes in for technical innovations with us. As a technician, he has really integrated himself well with the workers!"

Concern for Workers' Well-Being

EVERYONE at the Jiancheng Machine-Building Plant knows the story about five orphans connected with the plant

Ten years ago, Li Hua, one of the workers, fell ill and died. His wife had died just the year before. Their five children, three boys and two girls, were left orphaned; the oldest was 14, and the youngest only three. How would they get along?

I met Li Zhiguo, the oldest boy, now an advanced worker. He told me how his workshop trade union organization had assumed responsibility for their well-being and how Uncle Cao Lizeng—a member of the trade union committee—had taken the place of their parents.

Although the children received an allowance from the factory upon their father's death, they could not depend upon it indefinitely. Li Zhiguo was later taken on at the plant to do some light work under the tutelage of two master-workers. Since his earnings could not cover the needs of the whole family, the trade



Li Zhiguo (first from left) with his wife (holding the baby) and brother and sisters.

union gave them a special allowance. (The trade union is in charge of subsidies for factory workers having financial difficulties.)

Uncle Cao divided the money into small amounts and handed them to Li one by one, thus helping him cope with his daily expenses better. In late autumn, Cao would buy cloth for them and a woman member of the workshop trade union committee would take charge of having it made up into winter clothes. During holidays, TU cadres visited the children and ate meat dumplings with them so that the youngsters never missed out on any of the traditional celebrations which form such an enjoyable aspect of family life.

The workshop leadership and TU cadres also saw to the education of the orphans. Once Li Zhiguo fell into bad company and neglected his work. Senior workers from the workshop brought him round through patient persuasion and instruction. Now his two brothers and one sister are working—two in factories, one on a state farm—and the youngest sister is studying in the ninth grade. The factory pays all school fees.

Pan Guiqin, vice-chairman of the plant trade union in charge of workers' welfare, told me: "The trade union is a mass organization of the workers responsible for protecting the workers' well-being. Yet the 'gang of four' considered this fostering material incentives and practising 'welfare trade unionism,' which is tantamount to abandoning class struggle."

The trade union committee of the Jiancheng Machine-Building Plant did not follow the precepts of the "gang of four." Because the members have all along paid attention to the workers' interests, they are warmly acclaimed by the workers. The trade union organizations at various levels in the factory have special members responsible for the workers' well-being, labour insurance and particular matters connected with women workers. These members often visit the workers' families during their off time in an effort to find out their needs or difficulties and to help take care of them.

Pan Guiqin cited several examples. Every family in Harbin must put in coal for the winter, for temperatures in the city go down

as low as -30 to -40 degrees C. The trade union organizes young people to help transport coal for the families of aged and weak workers. If a worker needs money to help tide over temporary difficulties, he is allowed to borrow some from a mutual-aid fund which the workshop trade union has set up and into which each member contributes a small sum regularly. When the factory built a workers' dormitory, the trade union, after investigation, drew up a list of names of old workers who live a long distance away, and suggested that the plant leadership give them priority in allocating living quarters.

I also went to see the canteen and the nursery. The trade union has a special person on the canteen management committee and helps run it. I found that the workers really appreciated the advantages of their canteen and nursery.

Workers' Favourite Resorts

Workers' Cultural Palace. At nightfall, I visited the workers' spare-time school of art and literature at the Harbin Workers' Cultural Palace. The school is run by the Harbin Council of Trade Unions. As I went up the stairs, I heard piano music and the sound of string instruments as well as voices singing.

Yu Kan, deputy head of the cultural palace, accompanied me. We listened to an orchestra



Dance class in the Workers' Cultural Palace.

playing a waltz. We watched art students sketching a gypsous model. Scores of trainees are copying artistic forms of Chinese characters in preparation for running a blackboard newspaper. A teacher of creative writing is reciting a poem. In a big colourfully decorated hall, a group of young workers are practising the basic steps in dancing to piano music. The coach Tian Zhaochun, a choreographer from the provincial song and dance troupe, said that this was their third lesson. After mastering various dance movements and poses, they will gradually learn to do dances of various Chinese nationalities or ballet.

Yu told me that the spare-time school of art and literature had 25 classes with an enrolment of 1,400, most of whom were young workers from the factories. They come twice a week in the evening and will complete their training in a year. Most of the 60 teachers are from the city's professional art troupes or schools while some are amateur art lovers or trade union activists. Guo Shenghai, an accordion teacher, is a worker at the water supply company. Upon completion of their courses, the trainees play for their worker audiences at factory entertainments. Now several classes are rehearsing for the musical festival — Summer in Harbin. Most of the editors of blackboard newspapers in the factories are graduates of this spare-time school.

The building has a floor space of 16,000 square metres, and I spent some time roaming around. On the ground floor I found a theatre, reading rooms, an auditorium and rooms for games and sports. Elsewhere, classes for studying socialist economic theory and foreign languages were in session. Everything in the cultural palace is paid for by the Harbin Council of Trade Unions.

Workers' Sanatorium. I went to visit the Harbin Workers' Sanatorium on the Taiyang Island in the Songhua River. In pre-liberation days, this scenic spot was a paradise for wealthy foreigners, high officials and capitalists. Now it is used by the labouring people for rest and enjoyment.

The area covers 100,000 square metres. There are seven buildings, painted pink, white



Sanatorium patients doing "taijiquan" exercises.

or yellow and white surrounded by trees and bushes. Altogether 650 patients suffering from chronic diseases were staying there. They were admitted with the recommendation of the factory trade unions and after an examination by a hospital. During their convalescent period, the patients pay nothing for the room or medical expenses. They receive their regular pay and are given food at half price. Generally speaking, the period is restricted to three months so that more workers will have a chance to come.

The sanatorium has a staff of 110. Its medical equipment is fairly complete. The treatment includes methods of both Western and traditional Chinese medical practice. In addition, types of physiotherapy such as electrotherapy, hydrotherapy and light treatment are used.

Doctor Ma took me on rounds to visit patients suffering from cardiovascular diseases. Qi Zuozhi, aged 46, from a woodworking factory, is one of the city's labour models. Having suffered from high blood pressure for a long time, his limbs suddenly became paralysed overnight as a result of cerebral thrombosis. During his three-month convalescent period there, he has been given traditional Chinese medicine prepared at the sanatorium, acupuncture and electric massage. Now he can walk without a stick.

The sanatorium has been expanded since 1950 and tens of thousands of workers have recuperated and gone back to work from there. The Harbin Council of Trade Unions pays out 400,000 yuan every year to support this cause.

Workers' Spare-Time College. At the entrance of the college building, I met many lively young worker-students, most of them below 30.

"Although this is a spare-time college, our curricula and demands on the students are more or less the same as in regular colleges. The students also get diplomas upon graduation. What we aim at is to train students to attain the same level of specialty as those studying in regular colleges." Wu Fengxiang, vice-director of the administrative office, briefed me.

The college is also run by the Harbin Council of Trade Unions. It has 25 full-time teachers and 128 part-time teachers, among the latter are professors, lecturers, scientists and engineers. To meet the needs of industrial development in the city, this spare-time college offers four-year courses in machine-building, automatic control, petrochemical and civil engineering, as well as six-month and one-year courses in electronic computers, digital-controlled machine tools and hydraulic transmission.

The 5,400 students come from 600 factories in the city. A student applies for admission on his own initiative. If the factory recommends him and he passes the entrance examination, he is enrolled. The students go to college three times a week, each time for six hours to attend classes or do scientific experiments. Of course this takes up part of their working hours, but they receive full pay.

The college aims at training technicians for city-run or province-run factories, particularly for small factories whose technical forces are weak.

I went to a small factory making padlocks. All seven technicians there are graduates of this college. In the past, the equipment of the factory was poor, most of it operated by foot-pedals or by hand. Every padlock had to go through seven processes to have its 16 holes bored. It was hard labour. In recent years, those worker-technicians together with their colleagues have devised 200 automatic or semi-automatic padlock-making machines which have greatly raised productivity and at the same time lightened labour intensity.

Industrial Hall for Exchanging Advanced Techniques. In the exhibition rooms I saw the fruits of these technical exchanges; they included a



Part-time college lesson in progress.

new-type cutting tool, a special type of drill and descriptions of new techniques.

A leading member of the hall told me that it is a place where the Harbin Council of Trade Unions organizes mass technical exchanges and technical co-operation. It has 12 departments embracing dozens of special groups in which 800 noted model or advanced workers, professors and engineers pool their practical experience and theoretical knowledge and use their collective wisdom to study and solve a key technical problem or bring out a new technique. Their experience and achievements are later popularized. Meetings are often held at the hall for swapping advanced experiences. Some of them were attended by more than 1,000 people. Technical co-operation between big and small factories, training technicians or exchanging technical data with other localities are other activities organized at the hall.

Workers' Gymnasium. A 6,000-seat workers' gymnasium is under construction by the Songhua River. Upon completion, it will provide more opportunities for sports fans among the workers to participate in their favourite games, or to watch them. The physical culture department under the Harbin Council of Trade Unions often organizes workers' sports competitions and other activities such as speed-skating and ice hockey in winter and swimming in summer, in addition to ball games, track and field meets, and gymnastics, with *taijiquan* (shadow boxing) for older workers. There is even a boating club for those who enjoy rowing.

Viet Nam

Why the Export of "Refugees"

THE large number of "refugees" exported by Vietnamese authorities have placed an onerous burden on a number of countries, particularly those in Southeast Asia

Malaysian Foreign Minister Tengku Datuk Ahmad Rithauddeen said at a recent press conference that Vietnamese "refugees" have landed in his country by sea on an average of 4,000 per week. "This is a burden," he said, "it has brought about difficulties for us in the political, economic and security fields."

Not Exact Figures

Southeast Asian newspapers have been carrying news and commentaries condemning the Vietnamese Government for trafficking in human lives, making money by driving its own people out of the country. But at the mid-May Djakarta meeting on the problem of Vietnamese "refugees," Hanoi's representative Vu Hoang brazenly announced that the Vietnamese Government intends to export 10,000 "refugees"

each month. The meeting was shocked. Even the U.S. representative said that these Vietnamese export items were too numerous for his country to accept although it had earlier expressed willingness to take in more of them. Vu Hoang gave no time limit for such exports. Apparently Hanoi wants to continue this practice indefinitely. Quoting Charles Freeman, a U.S. official in charge of refugee affairs, Reuter reported that Viet Nam had even built up an industry making boats to export "refugees."

Since the middle of last year, the number of Chinese nationals and Vietnamese citizens driven by the Vietnamese authorities into China has exceeded 200,000. In addition, nearly 500,000 more Vietnamese "refugees" have been driven elsewhere. Well over 200,000 went to Southeast Asian countries and close to 200,000 to the United States, Australia and some West European countries. Even Xianggang (Hongkong) has had to take in more than 30,000 in recent months.

On May 28, Vietnamese "refugees" in Xianggang (Hongkong) waiting to be sent to refugee camps.



The Singapore press and AFP reports pointed out that the actual total of "refugees" is believed to be twice the known figure. Probably 50 per cent of those forced to leave perished at sea.

Self-Contradictory "Explanations"

Why has a million people shown no enthusiasm for national reconstruction in "liberated" Viet Nam and fled their land at the risk of their lives in six months?

Let's see if the explanations Hanoi has furnished are tenable.

The people were "beguiled, incited and organized by foreign reactionaries" to flee the country. This is the most used excuse by Hanoi's mouthpieces. On May 15, the Viet Nam News Agency said that those who had fled the homeland had been "deceived and organized" by "domestic reactionaries in collusion with foreign reactionaries." Here the question arises: How was Hanoi in a position to know beforehand that "reactionaries" were going to "deceive and organize" 10,000 "refugees" each month, neither more nor less? If this can be known in advance, why have the Hanoi authorities, instead of taking steps to foil these "reactionary" organizers, announced their intention at an international meeting to export 10,000 "refugees" a month?

Another explanation given is that the "refugees" are "all capitalists dead set against socialist transformation. The fact that they can produce gold and hard currency for exit certificates is sure proof of their capitalist status." Again the question arises: Is capitalism so highly developed in Viet Nam that among its 50 million people there are as many as hundreds of thousands of capitalists?

The exodus is "the consequences of war," the Vietnamese representative stated at the Djakarta meeting on May 15. He did not specify, however, which war he had in mind. He gave the impression that he meant the Vietnamese war against U.S. aggression. But here again one may ask: Why should these "consequences" manifest themselves three years after the end of that war, not in the many years when the Vietnamese people went through the ordeal of that war?

Profitable Business

What caused this exodus? The world knows, and the Vietnamese leaders even better, that the export of "refugees" is indeed "the consequences of war." Not the war of resistance against U.S. aggression, but Hanoi's war of aggression which is still going on. People remember clearly that in the years when Viet Nam was fighting a just war for its liberation, it enjoyed the all-out support of the Chinese people and the support of the people of the rest



On May 5, a boatload of "refugees" was rescued at sea 400 miles south of Thailand. "Refugees" are seen here lifting a dying companion on to a warship.

of the world, and the Vietnamese people were able to make ends meet. But today Viet Nam itself is the aggressor and so naturally it is denied international solidarity and assistance. Hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese troops are fighting outside Viet Nam. As a result, destitution stalks the country and the Vietnamese people are struggling on the brink of starvation. Their sons and daughters have been or will be pressganged to fight in a war of aggression. For many people who find it impossible to go on living, the only way out is to escape Hanoi's clutches. This is the real reason why a million people have chosen to quit their homeland at the risk of their lives.

Many foreigners who have recently visited Viet Nam also pointed out that the present war of aggression carried on by Viet Nam has brought about serious internal and external consequences politically and economically. But this is just the beginning. It is estimated that at least half a million Vietnamese will be exported in the next 12 months for Hanoi has found it profitable. A May 15 AFP report quoted an official at the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees as saying that the Vietnamese authorities had squeezed 240 million U.S. dollars out of the "refugees" in April alone. Of late, those who want to leave the country have been told to register in Hanoi and other places and to pay the sum of 2,500 dongs per person. Large numbers of Vietnamese families have been broken up, their members scattered. The Vietnamese authorities are not only warmongers but also traffickers in human beings.

UGANDA

Problems Ahead

The Ugandan National Liberation Army, with the close co-ordination of Tanzanian forces, on May 29 captured Arua, the last stronghold of Amin's remnants.

The rapid overthrow of the Amin government was by no means accidental. After Amin took power in 1971, the cabinet was reshuffled nearly 20 times and the number of people killed amounted to some 200,000. Tens of thousands of persons from all strata who had been compelled to go into exile abroad were struggling against Amin's violence. Economically, the high officials of Amin's military regime enriched themselves by corruption, and military spending increased year by year. As a result, production in industry and agriculture declined constantly and currency inflated daily, there was a serious shortage of supplies and the people were living in straitened circumstances. Serious problems also arose in the realm of foreign

policy. In October last year, Amin invaded Tanzania and occupied 1,800 square km. of territory. This year, Tanzania decided to retaliate by dispatching troops to fight with the National Liberation Army to speed up the Amin regime's downfall.

Since the provisional government was formed on April 11, much has been done to stabilize the social order. But the new government will be severely tested by the serious economic problems it faces and the need to strengthen national unity.

The stabilization and normalization of Uganda will positively affect the stability of southern Africa and the whole continent. It should be noted that the two superpowers are now trying to meddle in Uganda to suit their expansionist needs. In recent years, Soviet social-imperialism, taking advantage of the deteriorating relations between the Amin government and the United States and Britain, infiltrated Uganda. When conflicts between Tanzania and Uganda broke out, the Soviet Union maintained an outward appearance of neutrality but surreptitiously used every means to support Amin. Around the time of Amin's downfall, the Soviet Union, out of consideration of its own interests, changed its attitude and substituted "insurgent troops" for "anti-Amin troops" in its propaganda. At present, the United States has expressed a desire to render aid to Uganda. And the Soviet Union will never reconcile itself to giving up its influence in Uganda. The Ugandan people have to heighten their vigilance and oppose all foreign interference in order to defend their national independence.

EGYPT

Recovery of El Arish

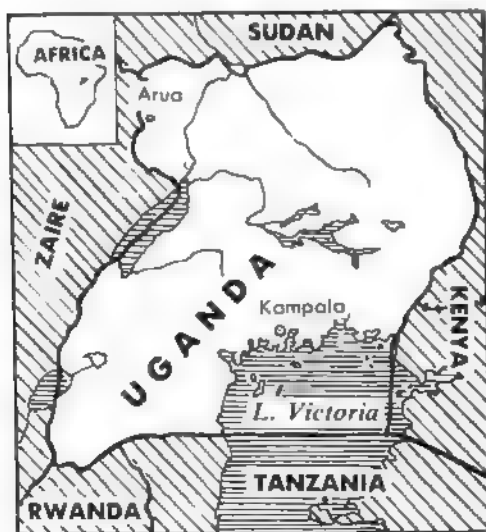
On May 25, Egypt formally recovered El Arish, the capital of Sinai, after 12 years of Israeli occupation.

At a one-hour ceremony held at El Abtal Square, five kilometres from El Arish, the Israeli flag was lowered and the red, white and black Egyptian flag was raised to the tune of the Egyptian national anthem. A thunderous applause immediately broke out and cheers rang through the crowd as people shouted "Motherland!" "Motherland!" "Sovereignty!" "Sovereignty!"

The return of El Arish was the first concrete implementation of the Egyptian-Israeli Peace Treaty signed on March 26 which stipulated that the Israeli occupation forces would be withdrawn from Sinai in two phases.

Situated on the southern coast of the Mediterranean, El Arish, with a population of 35,000, is the political, economical and cultural centre of Sinai.

This event marked another step in Egypt's recovery of its lost land. The Egyptian-Israeli Peace Treaty, as President Sadat has said, is only the first step in the realization of a fair and lasting Middle Eastern peace. People will have to wait and see whether Israel will seriously carry out the peace treaty. The Israeli aggressors still occupy the West Bank of the Jordan River, the Gaza Strip, the Golan Heights and the Arab sector of Jerusalem. They frequently attack Lebanon and are using every conceivable means to obstruct the Palestinian people from returning to their homeland and regaining



their legitimate national rights. The struggle of the Egyptian and other Arab people is still arduous. Owing to historical, geographical, political, cultural and religious factors, Egypt and other Arab countries have always shared weal and woe in their protracted struggle against their common enemies. As long as the Arab countries eliminate disputes and restore and maintain their unity, they will gradually solve the complicated Middle East problem, thereby defeating the Zionists and the Soviet hegemonists, who are causing splits and intensifying their expansion in the region.

E.E.C.

10th Member State

A signing ceremony was held in Athens on May 28 to mark Greece's inclusion into the European Economic Community. It will become the 10th member of the E.E.C. as of January 1, 1981.

Greek Prime Minister Karamanlis said at the signing ceremony that "by today's treaty, Greece accepts her participation in the process of the unification of Europe, which is taking place with the irresistible power of a natural phenomenon. Nobody, however, can deny its historical necessity."

Early in the 1960s, Greece signed an association agreement with the E.E.C. — the first to establish association relations with the community. Since 1970, Greece has repeatedly expressed its wish to join the E.E.C. The Greek Government on June 12, 1975 officially applied for entry into the organization. Negotiations for the entry were started in July 1976 and an agreement was finally reached in April this year.

There are many-sided factors for Greece's entry into the E.E.C. and the approval by the

community. The main factor is that both sides want this economically and politically.

Greece on the southern flank of Europe is regarded as a part of the "soft belly" of Europe and a weak link in Western defences. While massing large numbers of troops on the European continent, the Soviet social-imperialists have expanded their naval forces in the Atlantic, Mediterranean and on the northern edge of Europe, encircling from the north and the south and outflanking Western Europe. This threatens the security and vital oil and raw materials routes to Western Europe. Greece's entry into the E.E.C., therefore, is of great significance to West European integration and the strengthening of its southern flank.

Greece's inclusion into the community will also lead to some new problems. For instance, there is that gap in economic development between Greece and the average level of the nine other countries. The national income is also lower than that of the nine nations of the community. There will be an inevitable imbalance of economic development between the member nations of the community, adding new difficulties to the European Monetary System. However, with a view to West European integration, the E.E.C. members have adopted a positive attitude to Greece's entry into the E.E.C.

The Soviet Union has all along tried to stop Greece and other nations from joining the European Community and had even resorted to threats and intimidations. However, developments do not hinge on the wishful thinking of hegemonists. Greece's entry into the community will undoubtedly be a blow to the hegemonists in the Kremlin.

CANADA

Result of General Election

In the Canadian general election held on May 22, the Progressive Conservative Party defeated the Liberal Party which had been in power for 16 years. It won 135 of the 282 seats in the House of Commons. A new government will be formed by Joe Clark, 39, leader of the Progressive Conservative Party.

Parliament had been dissolved on March 26 and elections announced for May 22. In the recent general election, the Liberal Party, the Progressive Conservative Party and the New Democratic Party focused on domestic economic questions and "national unity."

The question of "national unity" refers mainly to the contradiction between British and French descendants in Quebec. Most Quebecers are French descendants and they want to make Quebec an independent country. In the recent general election, both the Liberal Party and the Progressive Conservative Party opposed Quebec seceding from Canada. The former stressed the need to strengthen national unity, while the latter was for giving more power to the provinces.

The Canadian people were unhappy about the state of affairs and wanted a change. And this helped the Progressive Conservative Party win the election when it put forward their slogan of getting Canada to move once again. As it has not won a majority of the seats, it will have to form a new government with the support of other parties. Whether a stable political situation can be maintained or not is a question many in Canada are worried about.

● **Sugar Production Up**

Refineries in major cane-producing Guangdong, Fujian Provinces and the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region reached a record output during the 1978-79 refining season. Sugar production in Yunnan Province also went up by a big margin.

Output in Guangdong Province reached the million-ton mark, ranking first in China. Guangxi produced 350,000 tons of sugar this season, a 84 per cent increase over the 1977-78 season. By April 20, Fujian Province turned out 310,000 tons of sugar, surpassing the previous season by 20 per cent.

Conscientious implementation of the Party's rural economic policies has stimulated peasant initiative. More sugar-cane was grown.

Labour emulations and better enterprise management in the sugar refineries have helped improve quality and lower production costs.

● **China's First Colour TV Kinescope Plant**

China's first colour television kinescope plant is under construction in the suburbs of Xianyang city, Shaanxi Province. Production is scheduled to begin in 1981 and it will produce 960,000 self-convergent colour kinescopes with 14" and 22" screens annually.

With a built-up area of 320,000 square metres, the plant will have three workshops producing fluorescent powder, shadow-masks and glass, a general assembly workshop and its own power supply system. Its equipment will chiefly come from Japan.



Harvesting sugar-cane in Guangxi.

Several hundred technicians and workers who will go to Japan to study the required technology have learnt Japanese for six months.

● **Factory Director At 26**

The new director of the Shanghai Xinfeng Non-Ferrous Smelting Plant is a 26-year-old man named Sun Shulin. The workers of this plant welcome this new appointment.

Sun Shulin finished middle school in 1970 and since he joined the plant in 1972 he has impressed others by his willingness to work and eagerness to learn and master production skills and techniques. He has had a turn at almost all jobs in the plant and was elected an advanced worker in Shanghai on many occasions.

Xinfeng was originally a small factory recovering lead and tin and other non-ferrous metals from waste metals. Production conditions were quite primitive in those days when Sun first came. Sun worked, lived and ate at the factory for

seven years without resting on most of his Sundays and holidays in order to improve its work conditions.

In 1975, as a deputy secretary of the factory Party branch, he was in charge of production. It was a big responsibility for a young man of 22, but he did quite well.

He spent two years familiarizing himself with production in 18 groups. In the open-hearth group, he and veteran workers worked out a way to save coal. After a month of trials the group could save up to half a ton of coal a day and also push lead output up by more than 100 tons a month.

Sun Shulin also paid attention to improving welfare. One of the first things he did was to see that the factory canteen answered the workers' wants.

Under the influence of Sun and other leading cadres, the workers and staff members work in high spirits. Some heavy manual jobs are now done by machines and the plant has become an advanced unit in Shanghai.



PALAEONTOLOGY

Chinese Palaeontological Society

A national conference and an annual meeting were held not long ago in the city of Suzhou in east China to mark the 50th anniversary of its founding by the Chinese Palaeontological Society.

Attending the meeting were some 400 palaeontologists of China and guests from abroad — Professor Curt Teichert (U.S.A.), president of the International Palaeontological Association; Professor Otto H. Walliser (West Germany), secretary-general of the association; Professor F. Takai (Japan), head of the association's Asian branch, and a vertebrate palaeontologist delegation from Britain headed by Professor T.S. Westoll, Fellow of the Royal Society.

The conference reviewed the research results of Chinese palaeontologists and held free academic exchanges. Four reports on China's research in vertebrate and invertebrate palaeontology, paleobotany and micropaleontology were heard. A total of 352 papers dealing with research results and finds and representing different

schools of thought and styles were read or circulated among the palaeontologists at the conference.

Her vast territory and well-developed older and younger fossiliferous beds of different geological periods make China ideal for palaeontological research. In the last 30 years since the founding of the People's Republic, a tremendous amount of research work has been done in the eastern, northern and southern parts of China and, more recently, also on the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau in the west. Much has been done in studying the evolution of living things: their origins, classification, movements and environments and their emergence and extinction. Especially in the past few years, remarkable headway has been made in palaeozoogeography (the classification of biogeographic regions) and vertebrate palaeontology and palaeoanthropology.

Palaeontological studies in China have furnished reliable data for finding oil, coal, and other minerals and for selecting sites for a number of major construction projects. The discovery of Daqing and other large oilfields in China was inseparable from the painstaking efforts of Chinese palaeontologists.

Classes of fossils studied in China have expanded from a dozen classes three decades ago to over 30 classes. Advances have been made in the study of trilobites and graptolites, and a formerly weaker link — the study of spores-pollen and conodonts — has been strengthened. Conspicuous developments have been registered in micropalaeontology and the

classes studied have increased from a few in pre-liberation days to about 20. Electronic scanning and other modern techniques are also being used in research work.

In China today, there are several palaeontology research institutes: the Institute of Vertebrate Palaeontology and Palaeoanthropology under the Chinese Academy of Sciences, the Nanjing Institute of Geology and Palaeontology, the Paleobotany Department of the Institute of Botany and the Stratigraphical Department of the Institute of Geology. There are also over a hundred institutions throughout the country that teach or do research in palaeontology and stratigraphy.

China is training more and more palaeontologists. Membership in the Chinese Palaeontological Society has grown from less than 20 people in 1929 when the society was founded to 1,000. Palaeontologists who work in geological teams, and in metallurgic, oil, and coal mining enterprises total 2,000.

The participants in the conference all held that different schools of thought and views should be encouraged so as to raise the research level and put palaeontologic studies in China on a par with advanced world levels in the near future and contribute to the country's modernization programme. Contacts and exchanges with their counterparts abroad should be strengthened as this will benefit the development of palaeontologic research in China and place research results attained in China at the service of other countries, participants in the conference said.

SURGERY

A New Right Hand

The Shanghai No. 6 People's Hospital successfully reconstructed a right hand for a patient who had lost both hands four years ago.

The reconstructed right hand has a normal sense of feeling. The patient can hold a pen to write, use a spoon, pick up a thin sheet of paper and lift 3 kilogrammes.

Early in 1963 Dr. Chen Zhongwei and colleagues in this hospital had successfully re-joined a severed hand for a worker. Later they did 500 successful replantations of severed limbs and digits, and many reconstructions of the thumb by free toe transplantation. All these free toe transplant patients had had a palm. This time the doctors had to remake a palm for the patient and transplant two free toes. This had never been attempted in China.

Dr. Yu Zhongjia, deputy head of the hospital's orthopedic department, and his colleagues performed the operation on October 21, 1978 after more than three months of planning.

The doctors made a new palm by inserting a claw-shaped piece of stainless steel into the shortened radius, and then covering it with muscle, blood vessels, nerves and skin from the right forearm. Later, the patient's two second toes were transplanted to function apposite to the new palm. The whole operation, including the rejoining of four large blood vessels, four nerves and six tendons, took 12 hours.

The reconstructed hand survived. Stubborn practice was involved before the hand was able to function.

"This new right hand enables me to take care of myself. It's much better than the artificial one I had before the operation," said the patient. He said walking without the second toes made no difference.

The 25-year-old patient had been working on a reservoir site in northwest China's Shaanxi Province when he was injured in a detonator accident.

SPORTS

The Fourth All-Army Games

The Fourth Games of the Chinese People's Liberation Army was held in Beijing from May 13 to 25. Over 3,000 athletes of both sexes competed in the games and many obtained excellent results.

In the women's small-bore standard pistol (60-shots, centre fire) event, a 20-year-old army nurse, Gao Qing, scored 593 points out of a possible 600, improving on the world record of 592 points set by a Soviet marksman in 1977. One of her companions, Du Ning-

sheng, equalled the world record. In the exhibition match Song Lianqing equalled the world record with 387 points in the small-bore rifle boar shooting.

Eight national records were broken in the games. In track and field events, Dong Xianlin and Guo Yu chalked up 7,305 and 4,248 respectively to improve the men's decathlon (7270) and women's pentathlon (4,133) national records. In the women's 100-metre butterfly stroke event, 16-year-old Liang Hong clocked one minute 6.6 seconds to set up a new national record. Three other national women's records: 100-metre, 200-metre backstroke and 800-metre freestyle, were broken by Zhang Zhixin and Wang Lijun, both 14 years old.

Sports are very popular in the People's Liberation Army. The more popular are swimming, weightlifting, cross-country running, shooting, grenade-throwing, table tennis, basketball, volleyball and football. In the 30 years since the founding of New China, People's Liberation Army athletes have revamped world records and international games records in 51 events.

In 1963, Li Shulan broke the world archery records in five events — the women's 30-metre single round, 30-metre double round, 50-metre double round, single round total and double round total. In 1974, Dong Xiangyi, Zhang Guiqin and Geng Shuxiang improved the world record in the 25-metre women's small-bore standard pistol team event with 1,639 points. And in 1978 the P.L.A.



Drs. Chen Zhongwei (right) and Yu Zhongjia (left) watch patient using his remade hand.

CORRECTION: In our Issue No. 21 this year, the seventh line of the left-hand column on page 30 should read "but he died in 1956."



Left: A parachutist standing on another's parachute.

Above: Army motorcycleists.

men's basketball team came first in the Asian Army Men's

Basketball Invitational Tournament, and fourth in the 25th

World Army Men's Basketball Championships.

ON THE STAGE AND SCREEN

International Children's Day Celebration

Film

Twenty-eight feature films showing how children lived during the years before liberation and after the founding of New China.

In the Name of Revolution, a Chinese film describing Soviet children defending the newborn political power after the October Revolution.

Forty-six animated films, including *Uproar in Heaven*, about Monkey fighting the Jade Emperor in heaven; *The Arrogant General*; *Department Store Run by Two Pandas*; and *Hens Moving House*, about a mechanized poultry run.

Modern Drama

Grey Wolf, by the veteran playwright Zhang Tianyi.

Ma Lanhua, children's story written in the 50s. Teaches

children how to distinguish the beautiful from the ugly and the good from the evil and how they must fight the wicked and the bad.

The Little Match Girl adapted from Andersen's story of the same name.

Cinderella adapted from a tale by the Grimm brothers.

Beijing Opera

The China Opera Institute gave a special performance for children. The best loved item was about Wu Song killing a tiger with his bare hands, from the novel *Water Margin*.

The Seventh Series of Items for the National Theatrical Festival to Mark the 30th Anniversary of the Founding of New China

• A rich repertoire, full of local character. Among them were

Wedding Ceremony, a comedy from east China's Anhui Province; *Expedition*, a Tibetan song and dance drama about the hero Gesser Khan of ancient days, folk songs and national dances from Qinghai Province; comic dialogues and ballad-singing from the northeast city of Shenyang, including five comic dialogues assailing class enemies and exposing unhealthy phenomena in society and one item showing how much a woman of Taiwan Province missed her people at home on the mainland.



FAMOUS CHINESE NOVEL IN ENGLISH

北京周报英文版第二十三期（一九七九年六月八日出版）邮政代号二一九二



The famous Chinese classical novel **A DREAM OF RED MANSIONS** is an immortal work of realism written by Cao Xueqin (Tsao Hsueh-chin) and Gao E (Kao Ngo) in the mid-18th century during the reign of Emperor Qian Long (Chien-lung) of the Qing (Ching) Dynasty.

This novel takes as its background the decline of four big aristocratic families. Though it deals largely with the tragic love between Jia Baoyu (Chia Pao-yu) and Lin Daiyu (Lin Tai-yu), it gives a faithful picture of the Chinese society of that time, exposing the corrupt nature and evils of the feudal system and the crimes of the feudal ruling class.

The English translation is by Yang Xianyi (Yang Hsien-yi) and Gladys Yang. It will be published in three volumes, the first two are now available and the third will be brought out soon.

Published by **FOREIGN LANGUAGES PRESS**, Beijing, China

Distributed by **GUOZI SHUDIAN** (China Publications Centre), Beijing, China

Order from your local dealer or write direct to the
Mail Order Dept., **GUOZI SHUDIAN**, P.O. Box 399, Beijing, China